

Course 1 - Course Craft: Designing Effective Learning Experiences

Specialization Overview:

This course is part of the **Digital Pedagogy: Teaching & Training Online** specialization, which is designed to provide professionals with an overview of educational technology and its application in teaching and learning. The courses are devised to enable educators to integrate the advancements in the edtech field into their teaching pedagogy for enhanced effective learning. Led by experienced LUMS faculty, this specialisation will provide you with a comprehensive overview of best practices for structuring your course or training experience, engaging your learners, and measuring their progress. Whether you're interested in designing new courses/programs/trainings or revamping an existing one, you'll gain practical insights and techniques that you can immediately put into practice in your teaching.

This specialization is offered collaboratively through the LUMS Learning Institute and the LUMS Center for Continuing Education Studies. It covers the history of EdTech, its benefits and challenges, as well as the tools and resources available. Participants will gain practical skills and knowledge to integrate EdTech into their teaching and learning environments, enhancing the overall effectiveness of their educational practice. Upon successful completion of the specialization participants will have gained valuable skills and knowledge that can be applied in different domains within the capacity of teaching and Training.

Course Overview:

Are you looking to improve your pedagogical skills and create a more effective learning experience for your students/trainees? The LUMS Learning Institute and Center for Continuing Education Studies is offering an exciting opportunity for you to join a group of educators and explore innovative strategies for course design and teaching. Led by experienced faculty facilitators, this course will provide you with a comprehensive overview of best practices for structuring your course, engaging your students, and measuring their progress. Whether you're interested in designing a new course or revamping an existing one, you'll gain practical insights and techniques that you can immediately put into practice in your classroom.

Through group discussions and hands-on activities, you'll investigate topics such as active learning techniques, Bloom's taxonomy, and Universal Design for Learning. During the course, you'll also have the chance to share your ideas and receive feedback from other faculty members, as well as the facilitators themselves. Whether you're just starting or have years of teaching experience, you'll benefit from the diverse perspectives and insights of your fellow participants.

By the end of the course, you'll leave with a detailed course plan that reflects your teaching style and goals. In short, if you're looking to create an inclusive and supportive learning environment that encourages student engagement and success, this workshop is an opportunity not to be missed. Join us today and take the first step towards becoming a more innovative and successful instructor/trainer.

Learning Outcomes:

1. Utilize the principles of backward design to enhance student engagement and promote learning by developing effective course plans.
2. Recognize the contextual factors that influence your decision-making during the course design phase.
3. Express explicit and measurable learning objectives that cater to diverse learners.
4. Embrace the principles of constructive alignment in choosing appropriate assessment and instructional techniques that align with the intended learning outcomes.

Course Outline:

Session 1: Principles of Course/Training Design

- What is course design? Why is it important to design courses with the learner at the center?
- How do we go about designing in this way? What are the various elements we need to consider to help all students succeed and learn in our classes?
- Constructive Alignment
- Backward Design
- Universal Design for Learning (UDL)

Session 2: Situational Factors Analysis and Course Purpose

- What are the most important contextual factors that influence your course? What is the purpose of your course?
- Mind Map as a Tool for Learning
- Where could UDL be Incorporated into the Design?

Session 3: Course Structures

- What are the different structures that can be used to arrange and present the elements of your course?
- Hierarchical
- Modular
- Spiral
- Revisiting your Mind Map

Session 4: Developing Learning Outcomes

- What do we want students to learn? What are the components of effective learning outcomes? How to write effective learning outcomes for your course?
- Types of Learning to Assess
- Parts of a Learning Outcome
- Bloom's Taxonomy

Session 5: The Role of Assessment in Student Learning

- What role do assessments play in student learning? What are the things to consider in planning assessments for your course?
- Formative and Summative Assessments
- Aligning Assessments and Outcomes
- Writing Purpose Statements
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Session 6: The F.A.C.T.S. about Grading

- What are some considerations for creating a student-centered grading process that helps boost confidence and reduce confusion? How to manage your grading workload?
- Grading Pitfalls
- Grading Practices and Challenges

Session 7: Instructional Strategies and Learning Experiences

- What does it mean to be engaged in learning? What is active learning?
- Memorable Learning Experiences
- Active Learning Continuum
- Alternative Instructional Strategies

Session 8: Elements of a Learner-Centered Course Outline

- How to create a catchy, engaging course description?
- Writing a Strong Course Description
- Next Steps